AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend original claims 1, 6, 11, 16 and 18 as indicated below. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.21, a claim listing including the status and text of all claims as currently presented appears below. In making such amendments, no new matter is entered.

1. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a decision support system, comprising:

means for acquiring system data;

means for transforming the system data into searchable data;

means for loading the searchable data into at least one data mart, wherein said at least one data mart comprises a fact table surrounded by a plurality of dimensional tables coupled thereto in a star configuration; and

means for providing queries on the searchable data.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising:

means for loading searchable data into a billing data mart.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2, further comprising:

means for loading searchable data into a usage data mart.

4. (Original) The system of claim 3, further comprising:

means for creating summary tables of the billing data mart and usage data mart.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, further comprising:

means for refreshing the billing data mart and usage data mart.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a decision support system, said method comprising the steps of:

acquiring system data;

transforming the system data into searchable data;

loading the searchable data into at least one data mart characterized by a fact table surrounded by dimensional tables coupled thereto in a star configuration; and

providing queries on the searchable data.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of:

loading searchable data into a billing data mart.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:

loading searchable data into a usage data mart.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of:

creating summary tables of the billing data mart and usage data mart.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:

refreshing the billing data mart and usage data mart.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for providing a decision support system, comprising:

logic for acquiring **calling card** system data;

logic for transforming the system data into searchable **billing data and customer usage** data; and

logic for providing queries on the searchable data.

12. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 11, further comprising:

logic for loading searchable data into a billing data mart.

13. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 12, further comprising:

logic for loading searching data into a[n] usage data mart.

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14. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 13, further comprising:

   logic for creating summary tables of the billing data mart and usage data mart.

15. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 14, further comprising:

   logic for refreshing the billing data mart and usage data mart.

16. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a decision support system, comprising:

   an input mechanism that acquires **calling card** system data;

   a transformation mechanism that transforms the **calling card** system data into searchable **billing–related and customer usage** data; and

   a reporter that provides queries on the searchable data.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the input mechanism loads the searchable data into a billing data mart.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the input mechanism loads the searchable data into a[n] usage data mart.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18, further comprising:

   a summary mechanism that creates a plurality of summary tables for the billing data mart and usage data mart.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein the input mechanism refreshes the billing data mart and usage data mart.